



LINCOLN CHAFEE

U.S. SENATOR

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CHAFEE ANNOUNCES GRANT TO ASSIST JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY TRAIN STUDENTS IN THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee announced that an overall effort of \$1.68 million in federal grants as well as in cash and in-kind contributions will be awarded to Johnson and Wales University for job training in the hospitality industry. The award comes as part of the President's High Growth Job Training Initiative: Hospitality Care Spotlight, which aims to address the projected shortage of qualified workers to meet the growing needs of the hospitality industry.

The award represents \$977,992 in federal grant monies, combined with \$705,693 in in cash and in-kind contributions. The award is being distributed by the Department of Labor (DOL).

“While the most promising way to remedy the growing labor shortage in the hospitality industry is through America's youth, many are unaware of the range of opportunities available to them by pursuing a career in this field,” Senator Chafee said. “With excellent opportunities for advancement in a hospitality career, I am pleased President Bush has initiated this program to breathe new life into this once booming industry.”

The hospitality industry is projected to experience significant employment growth in the 10-year period ending in 2012, with more than 1.6 million new jobs expected to be in demand. To address this shortage, Johnson & Wales University (J&W) will promote careers in the hospitality industry through two primary program components. First, J&W will develop interactive career awareness and exploration-oriented content for an engaging, bilingual website targeting youth. Second, J&W will work with the Multicultural Foodservice & Hospitality Alliance to broaden and enhance the Showcase of the Stars program, which highlights successful hospitality professionals and educates minority youth in urban areas about hospitality career opportunities. Information about the website and Showcase of the Stars program will be distributed to more than 600,000

youth annually through a variety of channels, including middle and high schools, alternative schools, the www.careervoyages.gov website, local One-Stop Career Centers, and other publicly funded websites and portals.

DOL projects that over 600,000 youth will be exposed to meaningful career information about the hospitality industry through the two unique and engaging formats. In addition, DOL hopes to double the number of annual Showcase of the Stars events from five to 10 in order to expose more youth around the country to hospitality careers. They will also measure the number of youth entering these education and training programs to assess their progress.

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